

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q96434

Masaaki HIRANO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/588,485

Group Art Unit: 1626

Confirmation No.: 8206

Examiner: Valerie Rodriguez-Garcia

Filed: August 4, 2006

For: PROPANE-1, 3-DIONE DERIVATIVE OR SALT THEREOF

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of the listed document is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

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Attorney Docket No.: Q96434

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of an Office Action issued on February 27, 2009 from the China Patent Office in a counterpart Chinese patent application (Application No. 200580018280.8) citing such document. An English translation of the Office Action (not including bibliographic part) is also being submitted. Applicant further notes that the listed document CN 1440391 corresponds to WO 02/02533.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that it constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove it as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: May 18, 2009